

Haning and no compounds are specifically identified as being selective inhibitors of PDE2.

Claims 1 and 3-8 of the instant application relate to methods of improving perception, learning and/or memory by administration of a selective PDE2 inhibitor. No compounds are specifically mentioned in these claims, because they relate to the general concept of using selective PDE2 inhibitors to improve perception, learning and/or memory. Haning, however, merely describes a set of compounds that may inhibit any of PDE1, 2 and/or 5 and teaches that they may be useful to treat cerebrovascular disorders in general. Nothing in Haning teaches or suggests the use of selective PDE2 inhibitors to improve perception, learning and/or memory. Haning does not identify any compounds that are selective for PDE2 or that such compounds may be useful to improve certain conditions. Since nothing in Haning teaches or suggests that selective PDE2 inhibitors may be useful in improving perception, learning and/or memory, claims 1 and 3-8 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Furthermore, claim 9 relates to the use of specific compounds that are selective PDE2 inhibitors to improve perception, learning and/or memory. The compounds listed in claim 9 are encompassed by the broader disclosure of Haning. Nothing in Haning, however, teaches or suggests that the specific subset of compounds listed in claim 9 of the instant application are selective for PDE2 or that they may be used to improve perception, learning and/or memory. Since nothing in Haning teaches or suggests that a certain subset of the compounds of Haning are selective PDE2 inhibitors, claim 9 of the instant application is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Please charge any fees due with this amendment to deposit account number 13-3372. If the Examiner believes that a

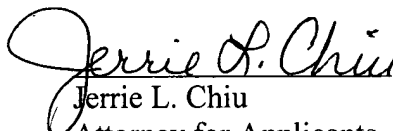
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conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (203) 812-3964.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Oct. 9, 2002

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